

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 00393 081038Z

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 393

LIMDIS

4.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, CH

SUBJECT: OBSERVATIONS BY KELLOGG PERSONNEL IN THE PROVINCES

1. THE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS OF POLITICAL INTEREST WERE PICKED UP MARCH 4 FROM MEMBERS OF THE KELLOGG FIRM VISITING PEKING FROM THE PROVINCES. THE TOPICS COVERED ARE LOCAL REACTIONS TO THE DEATH OF CHOU EN-LAI, TO THE VISIT OF FORMER PRESIDENT NIXON, AND TO THE CURRENT ANTI-RIGHTIST CAMPAIGN.

2. NACHI, SZECHUAN: CHOU EN-LAI'S DEATH WAS THE OCCASION FOR DEEP MOURNING, WITH TWO DAYS OFF FROM WORK, A VERY LARGE PROCESSION WHICH SEEMED TO INCLUDE PEOPLE FROM THE SURROUNDING COUNTRYSIDE AS WELL AS NACHI, LARGE (6-8 FEET HIGH) WREATHS, AND FUNERAL MUSIC FOR A DAY. THE NIXON VISIT WAS NOTED BY THE CHINESE IN NACHI, BUT NOT EMPHASIZED. TENG HSIAO-PING WAS STILL MENTIONED FAVORABLY WELL AFTER CHINESE NEW YEAR. THE SITE MANAGER WAS TOLD THAT THE WEEK OF MARCH 8 THERE WOULD BE A CAMPAIGN, AND THAT KELLOGG PERSONNEL WOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO PHOTOGRAPH THE POSTERS.

3. TSANGCHOU, HOPEI: THE ONE DAY OFF FOR CHOU EN-LAI'S DEATH WAS MANEUVERED TO A SUNDAY, SO THAT THERE WAS NO WORK STOPPAGE. THERE WAS NO PUBLIC CEREMONY. NO SPECIAL CAMPAIGNS NOTED.

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4. PANCHIN, LIAONING: CHOU EN-LAI'S DEATH WAS OBSERVED BY

ONE DAY OF MOURNING AND BLACK ARMBANDS WERE WORN FOR A WEEK OR SO. THERE WAS NO LARGE PUBLIC CEREMONY. NIXON'S VISIT WAS CONSIDERED A GREAT EVENT BY THE LOCAL CHINESE, WHO SAID THAT CHIEF OF USLO WOULD BE A SPLENDID POSITION FOR HIM. THERE HAD RECENTLY BEEN A NEW RASH OF POSTERS.

5. WOLITUN, HEILUNGKIANG: THERE WAS NO SPECIAL PUBLIC CEREMONY FOR CHOU'S DEATH, BUT PEOPLE IN THE PLANT WERE TEARFUL FOR SEVERAL DAYS, DURING WHICH THERE WAS NO MUSIC, PARTIES, OR ANYTHING WHICH WOULD INTERFERE WITH THE AIR OF MOURNING. THE NIXON VISIT WAS MENTIONED, BUT NOT EMPHASIZED. AS OF WEEK BEFORE THERE HAD BEEN NO BIG POSTER CAMPAIGN, BUT WORKERS HAD RECENTLY SPENT TWO FULL DAYS IN STUDY SESSIONS, COMPARED WITH HALF-DAY SESSIONS PREVIOUSLY.
THAYER

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